



Additional chart coverage may be found in CATP2, Catalog of Nautical Charts.

SECTOR 3 — CHART INFORMATION

SECTOR 3

ILE SAINT-PIERRE AND ILE MIQUELON

Plan.—This sector describes Ile Saint-Pierre, Petite Miquelon, and Grande Miquelon, in that order.

General Remarks

3.1 Ile Saint-Pierre and Ile Miquelon, together with several adjacent islets, are rugged masses of rock, covered with a thin coating of soil and scanty vegetation; the approach to the islands is relatively easy.

Ile Saint-Pierre appears arid, irregular, and mammilated from the approaches. The N and NW parts of the island are mountainous and visible 30 miles at sea. The highest peak, on the N part of the island, attains an elevation of 206m. The SE part is low, but Tete de Galantry, the SE extremity, is conspicuous. Grand Colombier, an island off the N extremity of Ile Saint-Pierre, appears well-detached from the extremity when seen from the NE.

Ile Miquelon consists of Petite Miquelon (Ile Langlade) and Grande Miquelon. Petite Miquelon is almost entirely bordered by rugged cliffs, which are particularly steep along the SE side, from Pointe du Ouest (Cap Coupe) to Cap a Ross. Several hills on the N part of Petite Miquelon are over 152m high, but its general appearance is flat. Petite Miquelon and Grande Miquelon are joined together by the Isthme de Langlade, a narrow tongue of land nearly 6.5 miles long. Grande Miquelon, the N part of Ile Miquelon, has a rugged outline; its hills attain elevations of over 244m. A peninsula at the N of Grande Miquelon is connected to the island by a low isthmus; the pen-insula appears detached when seen from a distance. A conspicuous hill rises over Cap Miquelon (Cap du Nid a l'Aigle), the N extremity of the peninsula.

Winds—Weather.—Foggy weather, wind squalls, and snow are frequent in the archipelago. Sudden squalls can be expected in Passe a Henry and under the high parts of the coast. Ile Saint-Pierre has an annual average of 70 to 80 days with fog.

Ice.—Ile Saint-Pierre and Ile Miquelon are occasionally affected by the St. Lawrence pack, which spreads from Cabot Strait during February, March, and April. In some years the ice spreads W from Cape Race, completely blocking the harbors on the S coast of Newfoundland as far W as Ile Miquelon.

Tides—Currents.—Extreme caution should be used when navigating the W side of Miquelon due to the currents. This is especially true of the Isthme de Langlade and in the vicinity of Pointe Plate (Plate Point), the SW extremity of the island. Numerous vessels have shipwrecked near the latter point. A particular danger near Miquelon appears to be the current setting toward the shore on the E side of the great bays in the S coasts of Newfoundland. In foggy weather, if the water appears whitish, it is an indication that a vessel is very close to the Isthme de Langlade.

The currents close to the shores of the islands attain rates of up to 3 knots and usually set NNW, but the direction is

occasionally reversed. The flood current sets NE in La Baie channel and turns to the SE about 1 hour and 15 minutes after HW. Sometimes the NE current persists, with diminished strength, until the following HW.

Depths—Limitations.—The islets and shoals, which fringe all but the NW side of Ile Saint-Pierre, render the near approach difficult and dangerous. Vessels approaching Ile Saint-Pierre from the S during thick weather should remain in depths of over 64m. Vessel, unless compelled by circumstances, should avoid approaching Tete de Galantry in thick weather.

Vessels bound for Port de Saint-Pierre and approaching Pointe Plate from the S during thick weather can, by sounding, identify the N and NW edge of Saint Pierre Bank and the submarine valley between Saint Pierre Bank and the bank on which Ile Saint-Pierre and Ile Miquelon lie. In this manner, vessels can ascertain their position for making Pointe Plate. The S side of Petite Miquelon can be approached to a depth of 20.1m. When the Pointe Plate fog signal or the lighted whistle buoy S of Pointe du Ouest has been identified, vessels can make good a course to round Pointe du Ouest. Pointe du Ouest is the best point to make during poor visibility, but care must be taken not to confuse it with Cap Bleu (Cap d'Angeac), about 1.8 miles NW.

Signals.—Signals which may be displayed on Ile Saint-Pierre and Ile Miquelon, in addition to the normal signals for indicating that a port is closed, are, as follows:

1. Three red balls, hoisted vertically, by day and three red lights, displayed vertically, at night signify that the port is closed.
2. The appropriate signal from the International Code of Signals by day, and three green lights displayed vertically at night signify that obstructions exist in the fairway; vessels should proceed with caution and conform to any signals received from the port authority.

Ile Saint-Pierre—South Side

3.2 Tete de Galantry (Galantry Head) (46°46'N., 56°09'W.) is a conspicuous headland. A light is shown on the summit of the headland.

Tete du Petit Havre (46°45'N., 56°11'W.) is a conspicuous peninsula; its S extremity, Pointe Blanche, is marked by a square rock.

Anse a Ravenel indents the S side of Ile Saint-Pierre, about 1 mile NW of Pointe Blanche. The bay affords shelter during off-shore winds. The head of the bay is formed by a conspicuous beach of fine sand. The bay has not been blocked by ice since 1924.

Caution should be exercised when anchoring in Anse a Ravenel, due to the existence of a number of abandoned submarine cables. Their positions can best be seen on the chart.

Pointe du Diamant, the S extremity of Ile Saint-Pierre, lies about 2 miles W of Pointe Blanche.



Tete de Galantry Light

Les Grappinots, rocks with a least depth of 10.7m, lie about 0.5 mile SE of Tete de Galantry Light. Basse de l'Indre, with a depth of 2.4m, lies about 183m SE of Cap Noir. Basse des Grappins, located 1 mile SSE of Tete de Galantry Light, has a least depth of 8.2m.

Basse de la Tournioure, with a least depth of 3.4m, lies about 0.6 mile SW of Pointe Blanche. Basse a Bonniere, a rock with a least depth of 5.5m, lies 1.2 miles SSW of the same point. There are several other shoals in this area that can be seen on the chart. Basse de la Marne (Marne Shoal), with a least depth of 3.7m, lies 1.1 miles S of Pointe du Diamant.

Ile Sainte-Pierre—Northwest Side

3.3 La Baie is the deep, danger-free channel between Ile Saint-Pierre and Ile Miquelon. During thick and persistent fog, vessels can take temporary anchorage in the channel; the NW side is preferred because of submarine cables which lie within 2 miles of the NE end of Ile Saint-Pierre, on the SE side of La Baie, and N and S of Miquelon, where they run W towards Cape Breton Island.

Pointe de Savoyard lies 1.2 miles NW of Pointe du Diamant. The coast between these two points is bordered by many rocks and shoals. A lighted buoy is moored about 0.8 mile SW of Pointe de Savoyard.

Pointe a Henry, the N extremity of Ile Saint-Pierre, lies 4.3 miles NE of Pointe de Savoyard.

Grand Colombier is a rugged rocky islet, 148m high, located about 0.4 mile N of Pointe a Henry, from which it is separated by Passe a Henry. Petit Colombier, a rock 7.3m high, lies close off the NE side of Grand Colombier. Ariege, a rock with a depth of 1.5m, is located close off the NW side of Grand Colombier. Basse du Colombier, with a depth of 3.6m, lies about 0.4 mile NE of Petit Colombier.



In the vicinity of St. Pierre



Pointe Plate and Colombier

Ile Sainte-Pierre—East Side

3.4 **Cap Blanc** (46°49'N., 56°10'W.) is a white cliff. **Cap a l'Aigle** (46°48'N., 56°09'W.), close SE of Cap Blanc, has a building with a conspicuous white roof standing about 300m WNW of its extremity.

Port de St. Pierre (46°47'N., 56°10'W.)

[World Port Index No. 1750](#)

3.5 Port de St. Pierre is formed in a bight which indents the greater part of the E coast of Ile Saint-Pierre between Cap Rouge, nearly 1 mile SE of Pointe a Henry, and Cap Noir, 2.75 miles S. Ile Saint-Pierre is bordered by off-lying islets and dangers which afford protection and shelter for Port de Saint-Pierre.



The Port of St. Pierre



St. Pierre

The port is 11 miles off the S coast of Newfoundland and consists of a roadstead which lies in Passe du Nord-Est, together with Nouveau Port, the outer harbor, and Le Barachois, the inner harbor. These are both protected by breakwaters. The port is normally used by French fishing vessels.

Winds—Weather

Port de St. Pierre Roadstead is exposed to strong NE winds.

Ice

Port de St. Pierre is rarely obstructed by ice during the winter months. Drift ice appears in February and disappears in April. Port de Saint Pierre can be entered throughout the year.

Tides—Currents

The MHW interval in the channels of Port de St. Pierre is 8 hours 23 minutes; spring tides rise 2m and neap tides rise 1.5m.

The tidal currents are irregular close offshore. A short distance to seaward the current almost constantly sets NNW and

has little affect by the feeble tidal currents of the area. The flood current sets in through Passe du Sud-Est and Passe aux Fletans, and sets out through Passe du Nord-Est. The ebb current reverses this procedure. In Passe du Sud-Est the ebb current is stronger than the flood current.

The currents in Port de St. Pierre Roadstead are very weak and greatly influenced by the winds. The flood current sets toward the entrance of the inner harbor at a mean velocity of 0.4 knot during spring tide. The average velocity of the ebb current is 0.6 knot. The current obtains its maximum velocity 2 hours before HW and LW.

The current can attain a rate of up to 2 knots.

Depths—Limitations

Quai de Frigorifique is on the NW side of Passe du Nord-Est, 0.3 mile SW of Cap a l'Aigle. The berth is 56.4m long, with two mooring dolphins 100m to the E and W, and with a depth alongside of 10m. Vessels up to 25,000 dwt, with a maximum length of 200m and a maximum draft of 9.5m, can be accommodated. The berth is untenable in strong E winds.

In Nouveau Port, Mole du Commerce, on the SE side of the outer part of Digue du Nord-Est, has three berths, one of which contains a ro-ro terminal, with a total berthing length of 404m and depths of 6 to 8.5m alongside.

Quai de Peche, W of and adjacent to Mole du Commerce, is 134m long and is a ro-ro terminal, with one ramp, having depths alongside of 5.2 to 9m.

Mole Frigorifique, located midway between Digue du Nord Est and Pointe aux Canons, provides berths on its N and S sides, 120m long, with dredged depths alongside of 7m and 5.5m, respectively, and a berth on its E side, 80m long, with a dredged depth of 6m.

In Le Barachois, there are two quays which can accommodate vessels drawing up to 5.5m. The maximum length vessel allowed in Le Barachois is 70m.

Quai Alysse, close SW, provides two berths, 48m and 39m long, in a maximum depth of 5.5m.



Pointe aux Canons Light



Pointe aux Canons Light



Entrance to St. Pierre from the airfield



Ile au Marins

Aspect

The low, rocky islets E of Port de St. Pierre are difficult to distinguish from the coast by vessels approaching from the E and SE. Tete de Galantry, on the S side of the entrance, was previously described in [paragraph 3.2](#) and is conspicuous. A conspicuous rock lies about 91m off the SW extremity of **Ile aux Vainqueurs** (46°49'N., 56°08'W.).

A Roman Catholic church on Ile aux Marins is prominent.

A television tower, 41m high and marked by red obstruction lights and having an elevation of 132m, stands close to the coast, 0.75 mile NNW of the church. Several storage tanks close SW of the tower are prominent.

A white rock near the coast, about 1 mile WNW of the church, is conspicuous.

A radio tower, with an elevation of 80m and painted in red and white bands, stands in a group of radio towers, 1.25 miles WSW of the church, on the W side of the town of Saint-Pierre. These towers are marked by red obstruction lights.

Pilotage

Taking a pilot is compulsory for all vessels of 50 nrt and over not registered in St. Pierre and Miquelon, except for warships on leaving Port de St. Pierre. Arrangements for pilotage should be made 24 hours before arrival in the roadstead, addressed to the Captain of the Port through a coast radio station, giving the vessels estimated time of arrival, length, tonnage and draft. Alternatively a request can be made not later than 1 hour before arrival direct to the pilot boat on VHF channel 12. If radio contact cannot be established, display the International Code signal for a pilot and sound four prolonged blasts on the whistle or siren.

The pilot normally boards in Passe du Nord-Est between Cap A Gordon and Cap a l'Aigle 0.7 mile WNW, at the fairway lighted buoy, or in bad weather, 0.5 mile within the roadstead.

Regulation

Port de Saint-Pierre is an organized quarantine station. All vessels liable to quarantine must display a yellow flag. Any vessel which has, or has had during the voyage, one or more cases of plague, cholera, or yellow fever on board, must display the appropriate signal of the International Code of Signals.

Bills of Health are not required for vessels whose country of origin lies N of latitude 40°N, unless there is an epidemic in the country of origin.

Vessels are examined by the Lieutenant of the Port or by his agents (Pilots or Customs officials), who act as Sub-officers of Health. Boarding hours are between 0600 and 1800 from 1 April to 30 September, and 0800 to 1600 for the rest of the year. The examinations may be carried out after the above hours.

The Health Officer's boat displays a yellow flag or yellow pendant. The Health Officer will grant pratique or refer the matter to the Medical Officer.

If pratique is not granted, the vessel will be berthed by a pilot in a quarantine anchorage.

Anchorage

Port de Saint-Pierre Roadstead affords anchorage, in 10.9 to 29m, well-sheltered from all but strong NE winds. The best anchorage berth is in 20.1m, gray sand and mud, with the N extremity of Cap a la Chevre (46°48'N., 56°08'W.), in line bearing 083° with Cap a Gordon, and the W extremity of Ile au Massacre bearing 197°. If the roadstead is crowded, vessels should moor with two anchors aligned in a NE-SW direction to ensure swinging room.

Large vessels intending to remain only a short time in the roadstead should anchor, in 33m, with the N extremity of Ile aux Pigeons in line bearing about 109° with Rocher Hache, and with Gros Nez open E of Cap a Baudry and bearing about 171°.



Port de Saint-Pierre from NE



Port de Saint-Pierre from SE

A large vessel has anchored in 35m, sand, about 640m bearing 080° from Rocher Petit St. Pierre.

Anse de Miquelon affords good anchorage, in depths from 7 to 11m, good holding ground.

Anchorage in the roadstead is unsafe for large vessels in strong NE winds.



Rocher Petit St. Pierre

It has been reported (1988) that the anchorage is insecure, even with moderate winds; engines should be kept on standby.

Vessels must avoid anchoring over old moorings, one anchor of which lies about 320m NW of Le Fletan, and the other about 228m farther NW.

Directions

Two channels, Passe du Nord-Est and Passe aux Fletans, lead into Port de St. Pierre. Passe du Nord-Est is the deeper and the one usually used by large vessels. Passe aux Fletans is rarely used except by fishing vessels.

Passe du Sud-Est, formerly the SE passage into Port de St. Pierre, has been permanently closed to navigation.

Entry or departure from the Inner Harbor at night is permitted to a vessel with a pilot on board.

Vessels entering Pass du Nord-Est from the lighted whistle buoy NNE of Ile aux Pigeons should make good a course of 235°, which will lead to the pilot station in the roadstead. Basses du Cap Rouge, on the W side of Passe du Nord-Est, should be avoided. Les Canailles, Ile aux Pigeons, and the NW side of Ile aux Marins, which from the SE side of Passe du Nord-Est, should be given a berth of at least 0.1 mile. A depth of 10.9m in the fairway W of Les Canailles should be avoided. Vessels approaching from the S or SE should, after identifying the light on Tete de Galantry, proceed to the lighted whistle buoy moored close SE of Grande Basse. From the latter position, vessels should proceed to the lighted whistle buoy moored about 0.5 mile NNE of Ile aux Pigeons and enter the roadstead as previously directed.

Caution

Caution should be taken to avoid Tete Sud de Gelin, which has a depth of 9.4m.

Petite Miquelon—West Side

3.6 Pointe du Ouest (46°47'N., 56°21'W.) is the best point to make during poor visibility, but care must be taken not to confuse it with Cap Bleu (Cap d'Angeac), about 1.8 miles NW.



Courtesy of Berenice Cormier-Saint Pierre

Pointe Plate Light

Pointe Plate (6°49'N, 56°24'W.) is marked by a light. Mariners are cautioned that numerous vessels have been wrecked near Pointe Plate because of the irregular currents and tidal currents. Mariners should give the point a good berth, especially during thick or foggy weather.

A depth of 10.3m lies about 1.5 miles SW of Pointe Plate.

Petite Miquelon—East Side

3.7 Anchorage can be taken off any part of the shore of Petite Miquelon, depending on the wind and weather, in 10 to 29m. The best anchorage is found off the mouth of the **Belle Riviere** (46°54'N., 56°18'W.), in 11.9m, sand.



Langlade

Vessels navigating off the W side of the Isthme de Langlade must take great care because of the strong N and NW currents, which have caused a number of shipwrecks. In foggy weather,

the whitish appearance of the water affords an indication that the vessel is very near the Isthme de Langlade.

The Isthme de Langlade is a tongue of land connecting Petite Miquelon with Grande Miquelon. Its S part is very narrow; its N part is almost entirely occupied by Grand Barachois, a basin with a narrow entrance on its SE side, which is only available to small boats.



The Isthme de Langlade

Grande Miquelon—West Side

3.8 Cap Blanc (47°06'N., 56°24'W.), marked by a light, lies 6 miles NNW of the NW corner of Grand Barachois. **Le**

Calvaire (47°07'N., 56°23'W.) is a conspicuous 74m high hill. A radio mast and a cross stand on the hill.

Veaux Marins (47°02'N., 56°31'W.), a group of above-water and sunken rocks, the highest of which is 1.8m high, lie 6 miles SW of Cap Blanc. Several rocky shoals, with depths of 7 to 15.2m, lie NE of Veaux Marins. Hautdfond Briand, with a depth of 3.3m, lies about 2.4 miles SSW of Cap Blanc.

Cap du Nid a l'Aigle, the N extremity of Grande Miquelon, is dominated by Le Cap, a remarkable hill 158m high.

Caution.—Vessels are advised not to navigate between Veaux Marins and Grande Miquelon.

Grande Miquelon—East Side

3.9 Anse de Miquelon(47°06'N., 56°22'W.) ([World Port Index No. 1770](#)) is entered between **Ponte a la Loutre** (47°08'N., 56°21'W.) and a point about 2 miles S. Spring tides rise 2m and neap tides rise 1.5m. Le Calvaire and Le Chapeau, a hill rising 90m nearly 1 mile SE of the S entrance point, are good landmarks from the approach. A church stands in the village at the head of the cove. Anse de Miquelon affords anchorage, in 7 to 11m, good holding ground.

Caution.—It is not advisable to anchor in Anse de Miquelon during strong NE or E winds. Vessels lying at the anchorage should be ready to weigh anchor immediately.

Numerous submerged rocks and shoals, whose positions can best be seen on the chart, exist E of Anse a Miquelon for about 7 to 10 miles. Caution should be exercised when approaching this area.